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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [KPKO](#) [CG](#) [RW](#)

SUBJECT: SAN'EGIDIO COULD SEE SUCCESS

1. (SBU) Ambassador received a letter from President Kabila's Ambassador-at-Large Antoine Ghonda informing him that on March 6, the FDLR has agreed in principle to publicly agree to renounce violence, denounce the Rwandan genocide, and agree to disarm and voluntarily repatriate to Rwanda.

Informal Embassy translation of the letter follows.

March 1 2005

Information Concerning the DDRRR Program

(complimentary opening)

I have the honor of informing you that within the context of implementing the peace accords signed between the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Rwanda and conforming to UN Security Council Resolution 1565 which gives the DRC the responsibility to undertake a DDRRR Program, the transitional government has initiated a series of demarches to convince Rwandan armed groups to agree in principle to disarm and voluntarily repatriate to their country of origin.

In this context, a second meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2005 in Rome, Italy between Congolese officials and a delegation of military and political FDLR leaders under the aegis of the Italian Community of San'Egidio.

During the course of the first meeting, organized in the same city on February 4, 2005, the FDLR agreed, in principle, to the following pre-conditions put forward by the Congolese delegation:

1. The FDLR would renounce military options and commit itself to continuing its fight in the political arena.

2. The FDLR would denounce the Rwandan genocide and its authors, and commit itself to fighting genocidal ideology and ethnic hatred.

3. Along similar lines, the FDLR would denounce the massacre of Rwandans perpetrated by Rwandan troops in Congolese territory.

4. The FDLR would accept participating in the repatriation program of Rwandan refugees in the Congo.

In addition to these four pre-conditions, FDLR leaders added other conditions, notably concerning security measures, recovering debts owed to them, justice, political recognition, humanitarian assistance for repatriated refugees, political asylum for those not cited for crimes of genocide, and the creation of a pilot program for DDRRR.

During the March 6 meeting, the FDLR is scheduled to sign a public declaration supporting its acceptance of the four pre-conditions previously mentioned, and its engagement in persuading armed groups to return to Rwanda.

I would like to clarify that this demarche does not at all modify other measures adopted in this sense by the transitional government, notably the possibility of forcible disarmament of recalcitrant armed groups.

(complimentary close)

2. Bujumbura minimize considered.

MEECE